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ISAAC H. JULIAN, - - - Editor

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#### Our Trip to the Mountains.

Ever since the completion of the railroad to the mountain region of Western Texas above San Antonio we had contemplated a trip up that way. Our desire to visit that region was no new born idea. For years, even before coming to Texas, we had read and heard of it as a most interesting section of the State. The yarious publications, first of Kendall, and later of Kingsbury, had in fact. exacted more interest in it than was possessed by many of the more accessible and in some respects more desirable and important divisions of Texas. So, when the railroad had reached it, making the trip short and easy, we resolved to defer no longer the gratification of our desire to spy out this remarkable land. And the fact that during all this season we had scarecly been off the the newspaper treadmill, and needed some relaxation, afforded an additional reason for carrying out this determina tion. Accordingly on Wednesday last we took the night train for San Antonio in order to join the excursion to Kerrville, the the next morn

We repaired betimes to the Arans as Pass depot. This is the handsomest railroad depot in its surround ings in the city. The grounds, we were told, formerly belonged to a garden, so the fact is not surprising.

About half past seven the excursion train, consisting of six elegant brand new well filled coaches, rolled out of the depot. By chance out to us in passing the proposed new addition of the city, the site for which has been recently purchased by a Cincinnati syndicate for \$150,and there seems to be no question but they mean business in building up a new division of the city, establishing manufactories, etc.

Passing around the head of the river and traversing a mesquite flat for some miles, we entered the highlands at the Leona, a mountain stream. Soon we reached Leon Springs where office, etc. The place lies in the centre of the valley, which is several miles in extent, with many isolated mountains surrounding, and taking it all in all, is as picturesquely beautiful as any we saw on our trip. It seemed to us a delightful place in which to retire from the turmoil of the outside world.

We found this region much less mountainous and the valleys much larger than we had been led to anticipate. There is a great seasons are favorable. The mountains are generally two or three times as high as those about San Marcos, and differ from the latter in being mostly isolated hills, generally of the sugarloaf style, but sometimes crowned with higher and precipitous crests. Streams are frequent, but we were told that but few of them are permanent. The valleys are bordered by timber, mostly different varieties of oak, and underbrush. Sometimes for miles scarcely any mountains were visible, and again they would "come in clusters." Thus the scene extends until you reach the valley of the Guadalape. Thenceforward the valley land becomes more continuous and extensive, while the river is bordered by various kinds of timber, among which the cypress is conspicuous We pass Borne before reaching this valley. Then comes the German hamlet of Sisterdale, and next the larger German town of Comfort. Here, as at other stations, there were considerable accessions to our crowd. A comely German lady, of middle age, shared our seat, and we found her free and frank in conversation.

was neither church nor preacher in the place, and the people desired neihad no use for church or clergy. That she had never read the Bible. harm no one.

The next town is Centre Point, on and kindred spirit: the opposite side of the Guadalupe. It is an American town and in broad contrast to Comfort is noted for its churches and church-going people. About noon we reached

#### KERRVILLE

Our objective point with reference to the celebration of the advent of the railroad, barbeene, etc. Having disposed of our baggage at the hotel we first took a view of the river, which flows directly by the town. It is there expanded by a milldam, but aside from that did not show as large a volume of water as the San Marcos. We were told one could walk over it dry shod during the summer. We found Kerrville a small but well situated and well built town. It has an excellent court house and jail, about the size of our own. Capt. Chas. were seated with an old Schreiner, who from a small beginsettler of San Antonio, whose ning has accumulated a fortune of advent dated back to 1857. We half a million dollars at this point, forget his name, but were entertain- has been a great friend and patron ed with many anecdotes and incidents of the town. He built the St. of the past of the city. He pointed Charles hotel, an elegant structure costing \$15,000. His large and spacious rock store house is an ornament to the place, while there is no private dwelling in San Marcos that will at 000. They are digging artesian wells, all compare with his fine mansion of hewn stone. Capt. Schreiner also built the roller process mill near town, and now has in hand the establishment of a system of waterworks.

The town subscribed \$50,000 towards the railroad besides guaranteeing the right of way, and raised \$500 to pay the expenses of the present celebration. The people are about Antonio, meantime writing up the an old settler has a hotel, store, post- incorporating for school purposes, and have determined to erect a large rock school building to cost \$8,000. (Will our "city dads" of San Marcos stage" at San Marcos. please make a note of this !) The site is 1650 feet above the sea level, and it will no doubt share the prestige of Borne as a health resort. The location of Kerrville is in a fertile valley of miles in circumference, almost perfectly level, and sentineled around by quite respectable appearing mountains. The site reminded us of that of the city of Monterey, saving deal of good farming land, and no the towering mountains which encirdoubt it is very productive when the cle the latter. There is ample "room and verge enough" for Kerrville to

become a large city. Having "seen the town" we proceeded to "take in" the barbecue, both literally and figuratively. It was estimated there were 3,000 persons presyoung friend Mr. A. W. Irving, recently of San Marcos, we were made acquainted with many of the princi-Southern and Western frankness and open-handed hospitality. Varions kinds of entertainment accompanied the occasion, among which was some capital shooting. Perfect order prevailed, and we did not see a single person who was intoxicated. The occasion closed by a ball in the dreaded detention. We left much no remedy. court room after night.

We did not return on the excursion, but remained over till morning when we took the train for San An- EXCURSION PERSONALS AND NOTES. tonio, but although it was raining slightly we could not make up our stopped some time at Prescott's, on the exmind not to stop over at

We found the town situated near- James Kerr, an early Texas pioneer.

of white marble. On inquiry she mountains. Nor did it appear specialsaid it was erected to commemorate ly attractive on a nearer approach. the sad fate of a number of her Perhaps, however, the fact that it countrymen in the late war. The began raining hard soon after our Germans, almost to a man, stood arrival and continued almost down to firm for the Union. Some twenty- our departure may have had somefive of them in this locality in order thing to do with our impressions. to avoid the Confederate conscrip- But we could not have passed Borne, tion, attempted to make their escape being so near. Why? Because a into Mexico. They were overtaken man once resided near by who has at the Nucces and slaughtered. Their made it historic and almost classic bones were afterwards gathered to ground-we mean the late George gether and buried and this monu- Wilkins Kendall. Not only is the ment marks their place of sepulture. pen mightier than the sword, but It was to appearance inscribed with mightier than most other human inthe names of the victims, and stands strumentalities. The "literary fellers," not only as a monument to their (as Gen. Grant is said to have styled memory but as a sad memento of a them) will come to the front. Kenfearful period of civil convulsion and dall, the founder and famous editor lawlessness. We were told that this of the New Orleans Picayune; the tragedy is still commemorated by the historian of the disastrous Santa Fe people of Comfort with appropriate expedition in which he participated ; cermonies. The lady stated that the author of a finely illustrated hisshe was the daughter of one of the tory of the war with Mexico, settled original immigrants from Germany. among these hills and vales as an hum-She gave us his name, but we cannot ble farmer and ranchman, and by his recall it. She said during the time presence and his letters to the Picay referred to he was compelled to hide une made all this region famous out, that if caught he would unquest throughout the Union. The name tionably have been hanged, as many of his ranch was Post Oak Spring, others were. In answer to various and it lies some four miles from inquiries she gave an account of their Borne. Here he lived and died, his community, from which we infer it is death caused by an internal injury

a very unique one. She said there from a fall from a carriage or wagon. Although the mud and water were "shoe-top deep," and the rain fell in ther. That they were Lutherans, but torrents, we walked out nearly a mile from town to visit his grave. We found it in the corner of the little That they had excellent schools, were grave yard, under a marble slab three orderly and prosperous, their stand- by six and a half feet, from which we ard of action being to do right and copied the following inscription, evidently indited by some appreciative

> GEORGE WILKINS KENDALL. Born In New Hampshire, Aug. 22, 1809. Died

At Post Oak Spring, Texas, Oct. 21, 1867. Printer, Journalist, Author, Farmer : Eminent in all.

Clear head; stout heart; strong hand.

man of many friends : most loved by those who knew him best,

An old German citizen of Borne, of whom we sought information of Kendall, gave us a better idea of the man than we had before. He said society of the rich, but sympathised with the poor, and who earnestly sought to attract worthy immigrants to his adopted home. His widow married Mr. B. F. Dane, a stockman, son who is an officer in the regular above Bærne. army

Another literary gentleman the hope of seeing whom attracted us to had departed this life. His family reside Bærne, was Dr. Kingsbury; but we a few miles above town. found him absent at the North. His learned is presided over by his wife. to the mountains to stay. We corresponded with the Doctor before we came to Texas, and we recollect he sent us for publication an autobiographical sketch of which we remember the statement that he came from Missouri through the Indian Territory on horseback, bringing all his earthly possessions. He located in the practice of dentistry in San country largely. Oddly enough, we never met him but once, for about a minute, during the transit of "the

He was three years in Europe in the service of the Sunset road as an im- in honor of a friend in the Fatherland. migration agent. He is an easy and graceful writer, and has been charg ed occasionally with exaggerating the merits and charms of Texas. We were told he has accumulated a handsome fortune, and has large possesafter all his travels and experience he continues to reside where he does, is the best evidence of his appreciation of Texas and Borne, and is really a high testimonial in their favor.

We should like to say more of Borne, both locally and socially, but our space forbids. We had limited our stay till Saturday morning, and ent. By the great kindness of our the continued rains made us very apsound." It met obstructions which gratified with our visit to the moun- At San Autonio, on our return, we called

> We met Mr. Steele, of Alabama, who cursion. He is stopping at San Antonio, and still unsettled

Kerr county was probably named after Nearly opposite the town on the ly a mile from the depot, a struggling We were right gial to meet at Kerreille right hand stood a large monument village lying along a valley in the our old Sun Marcos friends, J. H. Horn after a short illness.

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and his sisters Misses Sallie and Ella. They reside at Centre Point, as does also their uncle, Sol. J. Thomas. "Jim" is married and the happy father of a bouncing boy.

From the drift of Mr. A. W. Irving's conversation, we were led to infer that he holds in fond remembrance the girls he left behind him in San Marcos.

We met editor Guthrie, of the Kerrville Eye. His father edits the Bandera Bugle, the San Angelo Standard. A family of edi-

At Kerrville we were introduced to Capt, Caldwell, an agreeable gentleman, a brother-in-law of Judge Kone. Also to the sheriff of the county, whose name we forget, postmaster, Capt. Schreiner and his son, ing up the liquor traffic. Prof. Griffin, superintendent of the public schools, and various others.

We were not surprised that the St. he was in form heavy set, in dis- Charles hotel did not set a table to compare position social, jovial and somewhat with the St. Leonard, but did wouder why

> ported grand scenery and fine fishing. The Guadalupe river rises some 30 miles

We bethought us of our old friend, Dr. Waco, Texas. G. Marion Cade, who removed from Hays to Kerr county, and were sorry to learn he The Lunatic Asylum--- More Trouble.

We met Mrs. Lausson and several of her agers of the lunatic asylum, and it was ranch is about a mile out, and we children. She informed us she had come the first time that Mr. Hirschfield,

> road may terminate at their town for a long, long time. But who can fathom the secret councils of a railroad company?

There is a fine iron bridge over the Guadalupe river near Comfort. Until perfectly settled and equipped, this road will be liable to many wash outs by the mountain streams which swell to raging, roaring riv- that it consisted nearly, if not quite ers after an hour's rain, subsiding as soon.

friend Erastus Reed, of San Antonio, when who was in his favor during the trial a member of the legislature. Kendalia, a asked why he wanted them to leave. small town, was also named in his honor, and according to the report he said

We stopped at the American House, discussion in the board over the mat-Boerne. It is a comforable place. The ter. At all events, whether the rudaughter of the proprietress, Mrs. Barr. in mors be true or false, the board adformed us that she attended Coronal Insti- journed over till next Saturday to tute when it was first started.

The Boerne hotel is the largest in the instant. place, and capable of accommodating fifty sions in California. The fact that guests. At certain seasons it is pretty well filled with health-seekers and others. statistics in Cleveland's speeches are We called on the proprietor, Mr. Clarke, taken from the American encyclopdia. an ex-New Yorker, whom we found to be Will the able editors kindly explain an intelligent gentleman.

per, F. W. Schweppe, editor, and of the hurl at their dumbfounded readers? Advance, owned by A. G. Voght, but run by others whose names do not appear. Both are fairly good home papers. A third tronize the encyclopedia ?- Express. in German was about being started.

Wm. Kaufhuss, merchant, with whom we fell into conversation, told us he went to prehensive that by another break in school at San Marcos about 1848 or 450. the road we might be detained over He said the country around was then a mag-Sunday. The Cibolo, running thro' nificent stock range, and that an old man pal citizens. Taking the crowd as a the town, which we found almost a named Craton, who resided down the river whole we were impressed by its "dry branch", soon became a raging oddity as described by Mr. Kaufanss. Mr. K. river. The whistle of the upward also informed us that Geo, W. Kendali had bound locomotive on Saturday night his first ranch in Comal county, including a was to us, therefore, a most "joyful famous water-hole, which went by his name. While at Boerne the rains flooded the prevented its further progress, and streets and guiters so it was almost had to return to San Antonio in the impossible to cross. They might easily be morning, so we happily escaped the drained into the Cibolo, but the town not

> on our friends Mr. and Mrs. H. O. James. We were pleased to find them pleasantly situated, and every indication that their home is a happy one.

Yellow fever is prevailing at Tampa

died in New York a few days since

The presidential tour continues a grand popular ovation.

The General Assembly of the Knights of Labor has just been in session in Minneapolis:

Another railroad smash-up and burn-up, rivaling the Chatsworth and another brother is connected with horror, took place on the Chicago and Atlantic railway in northern Indiana on Sunday night last.

Don't fail to read the new Liquor and Sunday laws, to be found on our but he served in Col. Woods' regiment. first page. The former, if strictly Also to most of the other county officers, the enforced, would go far towards break-

#### The Waco Advance.

Dr. Cranfill's Prohibition paper The Advance, of Waco, Texas, conplayful. One who did not affect the the fine fish with which the upper Guadal- tinges to appear regularly and is as upe is said to abound were not represented bright and sparkling as of yore. While all do not agree with its We met at the St. Charles Mt. Jake opinions, it must be admitted Wolff, commercial traveller. He had just that the Waco Advance is a racy returned from a trip up the river, and re- journal and worthy of patronage. It continues to advocate Prohibition old Kendall homestead, and he has a above Kerrville. The Cibolo ten miles at \$1.50 a year; \$1 to ministers:

Last Friday was the regular monthly meeting day of the board of manthe new member, has ever sat in the The Kerrvillians are hoping that the rail- board. What transpired during the session cannot be arrived at, except at second hand, but if dame rumor, whose ears are always alert, is to be believed, there was quite a breeze in the board. It is said that Dr. Dor sett presented a list of names of em ployees he wanted discharged. The board looked over the list and found entirely, of the people who had testi-Kendall county was named in honor of fied against him in the recent investi-Geo. W. Kendall, at the instance of his gation. A member of the board who because they were his enemies. The Boerne (Burney) was originally a German board refused to discharge the settlement and was named by the settlers parties, and dame rumor again puts in to say that there was quite a lively finish its business.—Statesman, 11th

Republican papers claim that the whence they derive the startling mass-We called at the office of the Boerne Pa- es of figures which they occasionally Or do they esteem it a virtue to quote the census report and a crime to pa-



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